

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 AID-05 PC-01

SCS-03 SCA-01 A-01 OPR-02 /111 W

-----097769 271339Z /47

R 271234Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4427

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 2158

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS

SUBJ: SITUATION IN NORTHERN CHAD

1. SUMMARY: FIGHTING WITH LIBYAN-SUPPORTED REBELS  
CONTINUES IN NORTHERN CHAD. GOVERNMENT HAS REQUESTED  
MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT FROM SEVERAL SOURCES  
AND FRANCE, GABON, EGYPT, THE SUDA, AND ZAIRE HAVE  
APPARENTLY RESPONDED. PRESIDENT MALLOUM INTENDS  
TO RAISE QUOTE LIBYAN AGGRESSION UNQUOTE AT OAU.

2. WHILE REBEL ATTACKS ON THE ZOUAR AND OUNIANGA  
KEBIR HAVE BEEN REPULSED, FIGHTING IN THE BARDAI AREA  
CONTINUES. REBELS ARE REPORTEDLY IN UNIFORM AND  
EMPLOYING HEAVY EQUIPMENT WHICH HAS BEEN SUPPLIED  
BY LIBYA. FIGHTING IN ALL THREE AREAS COULD BE CHAR-  
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ACTERIZED AS MAJOR BATTLES IN CHADIAN TERMS, NOT  
SKIRMISHES.

3. WHILE NO FIGHTING HAS OCCURRED IN EASTERN  
AREA OF CHAD, SITUATION THERE IS APPARENTLY TENSE  
WITH EXPECTATION THAT IT IS JUST A MATTER OF TIME  
UNTIL HISSAN HABRE TAKES ADAVNATGE OF SITUATION IN

NORTH TO STRIKE.

4. GOVERNMENT HAS ASKED FOR MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC ASSISTANCE FROM MANY SOURCES, AND FRANCE, GABON, EGYPT, THE SUDAN, AND ZAIRE HAVE REPORTEDLY RESPONDED. GABON HAS APPARENTLY AGREED TO LOAN GOVERNMENT SOME AIRCRAFT; EGYPTIAN AND SUDANESE MILITARY DELEGATIONS ARE IN N'DJAMENA TO DISCUSS ASSISTANCE; AND AIR ZAIRE CARGO PLANE WAS HORNG WHAT APPEARED TO BE MILITARY EQUIPMENT AT AIRPORT THIS MORNING. FRENCH AMBASSADOR CONFIRMS THAT FRENCH ARE SPEEDING UP REPLACEMENT OF PARTS FOR PLANES AND HELICOPTERS AS WELL AS SHIPMENTS OF AMMUNITION AND SMALL ARMS. AS REPORTED EARLIER, PRESIDENT MALLOUM HAS ASKED PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING TO APPROACH QADHAFI AND ASK HIM TO HALT FIGHTING. FRENCH PRESIDENT HAS APPARENTLY DONE SO OR HAS EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO DO SO.

5. PRESIDENT MALLOUM INTENDS TO HAVE LIBYAN SUPPORT REBEL ACTION RAISED AT OAU MEETING IN EARLY JUNE. ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT CLEAR AT THIS TIME WHETHER HE WILL BE PERSONALLY ATTENDING OR NOT.

6. COMMENTARY: THERE ARE NO AMERICANS OR AMERICAN INTERESTS IN THE AREA DIRECTLY CONCERNED  
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IN THE FIGHTING. REBEL SUCCESSES COULD WELL EMBARRASS THE GOVERNMENT IN N'DJAMENA AND COULD AGGRAVATE THE INTERNAL STRAINS BETWEEN ITS MEMBERS, BUT IT IS DOUBTFUL IF IT WOULD OVERTURN IT OR SERIOUSLY AFFECT ITS POLITICAL ALIGNMENT.FOR MOMENT, MAJOR IMPLICATIONS FOR US ARE: A) A RENEWED REQUEST FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN VIEW OF RATHER BLATANT AGRESSION; AND B) POSSIBLE EMERGENCE OF MATTER IN THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM, CALLING FOR US TO TAKE A STAND. IF SITUATION DOES NOT QUIET DOWN IN NEAR FUTURE AND IF OAU APPROACH IS FUTILE, AS WOULD SEEM TO BE THE PROSPECT, THERE SEEMS TO BE A GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT ISSUE MIGHT BE RAISED FORMALLY WITHIN UN FRAMEWORK. BRADFORD

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Subject:** SITUATION IN NORTHERN CHAD  
**TAGS:** MOPS, CD, LY  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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